Government is to remove deficiencies in the existing National Highway network and to upgrade the same to the National Highway standard rather than expanding the present network.

Acquisition of land for six-laning

2752. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has initiated action for the acquisition of land for six-laning of the roads, under the Golden Quadrilateral Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of land required and acquired for the purpose particularly in Uttar Pradesh; and

(d) the time by when the required land is likely to be acquired, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. So far six sections of Golden Quadrilateral have been awarded. The land requirement for two of these sections (Vadodara-Bharuch and Bharuch-Surat of NH-8) has been assessed as 43.5893 hectare and notification under section 3D of National Highways Act 1956, vesting the land in Central Government has been issued for 37.835 hectare. The balance four sections (Surat-Dahisar and Gurgaon-Jaipur on NH-8, Chennai-Tada and Chilkaluripet-Vijayawada on NH-5) were awarded on 21st February, 2008 and action for land acquisition is being initiated. For other sections, the action will be initiated after award of the project.

(c) Land for these projects to meet the contractual requirements for award of concession is already available. However, additional land would be required for facilities like service road, flyovers/interchanges, acceleration/deceleration lanes, entry-exit ramps etc. The requirement of the additional land can be assessed only after the concessionaire finalizes the design of the project, which is his responsibility under the approved Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) system of implementation of these projects.

As regards Uttar Pradesh, the project for six laning of Delhi-Agra section is under submission for Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) for approval and an estimated area of 180 hectare is to be acquired for this project.

(d) Since these projects are at various stages of implementation, it is too early to give time-frame for acquisition of entire land at this stage.

Road connecting Vallarpadam Container Terminal

2753. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary clearance has been given to the construction of four-lane road connecting Vallarpadam Container Terminal at Kochi;

(b) if so, the details of estimated cost of the project;

(c) the funds so far released for the purpose; and

(d) the present status of work and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 557.00 crore. So far Rs. 175.18 crore has been released for the purpose. The work had commenced on 10th August, 2007. Various activities of the road and bridge works are in progress.

New shipyard under PPP

2754. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has authorized the Mumbai Port Trust with the help of consultants to identify sites where the new shipyard can come up on a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) basis;

(b) if so, whether any proposal from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been received by his Min'itry for the said project;

(c) if so, the details thereof and also the details ofthe consultants roped in for the purpose;

(d) by when the project would be finalised and the civil works would commence; and

(e) the proposed total outlay ofthe project?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Government of India has nominated Mumbai Port Trust and Ennore Port Limited to function as the Nodal Agencies for setting up of shipyards on the West Coast of India and the East Coast of India respectively. The nodal agencies have been authorized to appoint Consultants with clear terms of reference who *inter alia,* would identify 3 or 4 alternative sites each for setting up of shipyard on West Coast and East Coast of India respectively and also suggest optimal locations with detailed justification.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has proposed Vodarevu in Prakasam District as a suitable site for setting up international size shipyard. The features of the said location are as follows:

* Vodarevu is declared Non Major Port and is situated in Prakasam District at Latitude 15 degrees 48* North 80 degrees 15' East.
* Vodarevu is well connected with the State Highway at a distance of 5 Kilometres and Howrah-Madras main railway line is about 6 Kilometres.
* Due to unique geographical position, it is sheltered port with 5 metres contour at a distance of 300 metres from the shore and 10 metres contour at a distance of 5 Kilometres.
* The required land would be made available free of cost for the purposes-of shipyard.

This Ministry has, subsequently, sought certain further details regarding the location from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

(d) and (e) The Nodal Agencies have been entrusted with the responsibility/job of engaging consultants for preparing, *inter alia,* detailed project reports, documents for request for proposals/qualifications etc. for setting up two international size shipyards. As such, no definite time frame can be set at this stage for finalization of the project and commencement of civil works. The Ministry had projected to the Planning Commission an outlay of Rs. 3000 crores comprising of Gross Budgetary Support from Government and Internal and Extra Budgetary Resources (IEBR).